

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

(PCT Article 18 and Rules 43 and 44)

Applicant's or agent's file reference AIW/LH/41829	FOR FURTHER ACTION see Form PCT/ISA/220 as well as, where applicable, item 5 below.	
International application No. PCT/GB2004/001140	International filing date (day/month/year) 18/03/2004	(Earliest) Priority Date (day/month/year) 18/03/2003
Applicant MOLINS PLC		

This International Search Report has been prepared by this International Searching Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 18. A copy is being transmitted to the International Bureau.

This International Search Report consists of a total of 5 sheets.

It is also accompanied by a copy of each prior art document cited in this report.

1. Basis of the report

a. With regard to the **language**, the International search was carried out on the basis of the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

The international search was carried out on the basis of a translation of the international application furnished to this Authority (Rule 23.1(b)).

b. With regard to any **nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence** disclosed in the international application, see Box No. I.

2. **Certain claims were found unsearchable** (See Box II).

3. **Unity of invention is lacking** (see Box III).

4. With regard to the **title**,

the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.

the text has been established by this Authority to read as follows:

IGNITION SYSTEM FOR A SMOKING MACHINE

5. With regard to the **abstract**,

the text is approved as submitted by the applicant.

the text has been established, according to Rule 38.2(b), by this Authority as it appears in Box No. IV. The applicant may, within one month from the date of mailing of this international search report, submit comments to this Authority.

6. With regards to the **drawings**,

a. the figure of the **drawings** to be published with the abstract is Figure No. 7

as suggested by the applicant.

as selected by this Authority, because the applicant failed to suggest a figure.

as selected by this Authority, because this figure better characterizes the invention.

b. none of the figures is to be published with the abstract.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/GB2004/001140

Box No. IV Text of the abstract (Continuation of item 5 of the first sheet)

The present invention provides an ignition system for a smoking machine, comprising a heat source (2) that is adapted for emitting heat for igniting one end of a smoking article which is held by a smoking machine; an automatic sensor (3, 4) which is adapted for detecting the position of said end of the smoking article; and control means in communication with said sensor (3, 4), which are adapted for automatically adjusting the operation of said heat source (2) and/or for automatically adjusting relative movement of said heat source (2) and/or of said article, depending on the position of said end as detected by said sensor (3, 4), such as to enable successful ignition of said end by said heat source (2). The invention further provides a kit of components for forming an ignition system in accordance with the invention, and a smoking machine comprising an ignition system in accordance with the invention.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No
PCT/GB2004/001140

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 A24C5/34

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
IPC 7 A24C GO1N

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category °	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	EP 0 880 020 A (JAPAN TOBACCO INC) 25 November 1998 (1998-11-25) column 7, line 25 – line 55; figures column 11, line 57 –column 12, line 36 ---	1-7, 19, 20, 22-25
X	EP 0 581 596 A (JAPAN TOBACCO INC) 2 February 1994 (1994-02-02) column 5, line 20 – line 57 ---	1-4, 22-25
A	US 4 858 628 A (NORMAN ALAN B ET AL) 22 August 1989 (1989-08-22) abstract; claims 12,13; figures -----	1, 22, 23



Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.



Patent family members are listed in annex.

° Special categories of cited documents :

- "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance
- "E" earlier document but published on or after the international filing date
- "L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)
- "O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means
- "P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

- "T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention
- "X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone
- "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art.
- "&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search

1 July 2004

Date of mailing of the international search report

14/07/2004

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

 International Application No
 PCT/GB2004/001140

Patent document cited in search report		Publication date		Patent family member(s)		Publication date
EP 0880020	A	25-11-1998		JP 3034203 B2		17-04-2000
				JP 10132803 A		22-05-1998
				JP 3034204 B2		17-04-2000
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				EP 0880020 A1		25-11-1998
				US 6161551 A		19-12-2000
				CN 1206462 A ,B		27-01-1999
				WO 9820318 A1		14-05-1998
				TW 401511 B		11-08-2000

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				JP 6050960 A		25-02-1994
				JP 3181102 B2		03-07-2001
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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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 International Application No
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Patent document cited in search report		Publication date		Patent family member(s)		Publication date
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